



THE BELL RINGER



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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

DECEMBER 18, 1984



Holy Name Catholic Church on Woodland Street:
Home of the soup kitchen.

THE SOUP KITCHEN An Exercise in Awareness

By GREY PETZNICK
and JOHN BAUMAN

Darlene is just one of many Nashvillians who are jobless and homeless. Like other destitutes, she carries her few possessions with her in her car where she sleeps at night. She lives off food stamps and welfare and barely survives. Her story is rather tragic and unreal to us but it is a reality in which she and some 1200 to 2000 Nashvillians live everyday.

Many of these people are alcoholics or, like Darlene, are de-institutionalized mental patients. They are usually middle age citizens who have failed so many times that they have lost the ambition and drive to lead a successful life. Giv-

ing up all hope has put them into their present condition.

In the community's attempt to help these people in their daily search for a meal, many social organizations have taken on the great task of feeding these hundreds each day. One of these organizations, Holy Name Catholic Church, endeavors to feed these people two to three times a week. Serving a meat, vegetables, fruits, and breads, the volunteers of this church seek to provide a hot, nutritious meal.

MBA's student council has now taken up this cause with Holy Name Catholic Church since last year and continues to offer much help in their service. Parish Lentz, president of the 1984 student body under the supervision of Dr. Harold Crowell, sought to find a meaningful community-interest program. After considering five worthwhile projects, the student council chose to aid the Holy Name Catholic Church's soup kitchen. This year, the student council, headed by Mac Hardcastle and Dr. Crowell continues to give support in the soup kitchen in several ways. At each class meeting, the students give generously, often donating from \$90 up to \$120. Dr. Crowell takes the money donated and buys food. Volunteers from the student body and student council go the church at 8 o'clock with Dr. Crowell and start cooking. In a *Bell Ringer* interview, Dr. Crowell remarked that MBA students are very responsible

and left him little to do but supervise and season the food. The students do all the preparations from setting the table to cooking throughout the morning; the needy arrive and wait, talking quietly among themselves, drinking coffee. Around noon, the volunteers start serving. Last time, MBA served a beef stew, green beans, pears, rolls cornbread, and pie to a hungry ninety to one hundred twenty people and themselves.

"Attaining a Sense of Community Involvement"

As they serve, the students hear stories of a life different from their own. Stories of past glories and accomplishments are common. There are those who express their woes such as their daily fight for and frustration with money and such small matters to us as ordering a scarf from a catalogue. There are those who ask about the students' own lives, the school's football record, or where the chorus' Christmas program is playing next and there are those who don't speak

(Continued on page 6)

CPR Course Started

By WILLIE LIN

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR, is the procedure which a rescuer initiates in order to provide artificial circulation and breathing for a person whose heart or lungs have ceased functioning. CPR greatly increases the chances of survival for the victim and greatly decreases the chances for brain damage. Over twelve million people across the United States know how to initiate CPR.

We at MBA are fortunate in that we will have an opportunity to be part of those twelve million. Mr. Womack, with the help of Mr. Kilian, both certified instructors, will teach a course on CPR this winter. This course will take the place of winter athletics. Mr. Womack expects a class of eight to ten, mostly seniors.

6. mouth-to-mouth resuscitation for infants
7. CPR for infants
8. choking for infants.

Mr. Womack says that the course is "self-invited" and that the student must be prepared to "read the book" and study.

Mr. Womack's reason for learning CPR is that CPR was something he "just wanted to do." One can empathize with him because both his parents suffered heart attacks. Mr. Womack calls the benefits of CPR "far-reaching" as a result

from a "confidence of exposure." According to Mr. Womack, this course will be offered again later in the year and will probably be offered regularly.

The funding for this new course was obtained through profits from the Spaghetti Supper. With this money, the Mother's Club has purchased two new adult mannequins along with an infant one to give students taking the course first-hand experience at performing a basically simple yet vitally important operation which could save the life of a friend, family member, or even a stranger.

MBA's Teacher Selection Process

By SCOTT CAREY

This year, the addition of a great number of teachers to the faculty has brought up the pertinent questions of how does MBA select its teachers and why would a teacher choose to work at MBA.

In a recent senior class meeting, Mr. Bondurant commented that he has actively sought to bring the finest quality teachers to MBA. Further investigation into this statement has shown MBA's hiring process is geared toward nationally recruiting fine teachers. The University Placement Office and various other private placement agencies provide a showcase of teachers from which to choose. Another hiring aid is the 3-day Teacher-Placement forum held annually in Boston, Mass. This forum is much like a college day when the teachers are actually on hand to be interviewed.

MBA consults all of these placement sources and in case of a position opening, Mr. Bondurant is able to narrow the teacher choices and bring the most promising candidates to the campus. While at MBA, the candidates undergo

another interview with the hiring committee. A teacher candidate should hold either a master's degree or a doctorate in the subject in which he is being hired. Secondly, although it is not mandatory, a teacher should have had some previous teaching experience. Experience is important so that the hiring committee can check the candidate's references. By consulting references, the committee is able to learn how the candidate relates to students, and if he is caring and enthusiastic in the way he teaches his subject matter. After the hiring committee reviews all of the candidates, Mr. Bondurant then makes the final decision on who is hired.

Once a teacher has been hired, the question of why he would choose to work at MBA becomes relative. There are several advantages to teaching at MBA. Having been listed in one of the private hiring sources, the teacher has already indicated he wishes to work in a private school atmosphere. The advantage here is the environment of bright students who are, for the most part, willing to learn. The small student body is also a plus,

because teachers at MBA have fewer classes with fewer students than they would if they taught at a public school.

Finally, MBA follows a pay-scale which does not "top-out" after a certain number of years. However, the income of MBA teachers is less than those of area public school

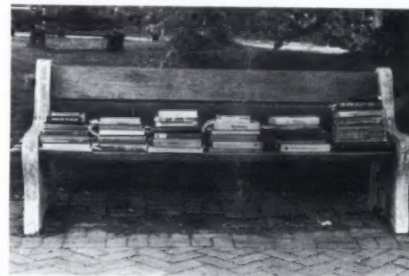
teachers. The Board of Trustees has been steadily raising teachers' pay without significantly increasing tuition costs.

Thus, MBA has been able to maintain a standard of excellence in the quality of teachers which have been hired.

*"A basically
simple yet vitally
important
operation."*

This CPR course is a twelve hour one which will include the following methods:

1. mouth-to-mouth resuscitation
2. one person CPR
3. two person CPR
4. choking for a conscious victim
5. choking for an unconscious victim



MBA: Maintaining a standard of excellence.

The Editorial Page

Reagan's Next Four Years. . .

By CHARLIE REASOR

After achieving one of the greatest victories in American political history, Ronald Reagan will pursue with confidence goals which were mandated by the American voters. Among the goals for the next four years are tax code simplification, reduction of federal deficits, continued increased defense spending, a US/USSR arms control pact, and containment of communist growth in Central America.

Simplification of the tax code has already begun. Proposed by the Treasury Department, its basis is a modified flat-tax. People making under \$100,000 a year would benefit most; corporations would suffer the greatest, if the bill is passed and no changes are made.

Reducing the federal deficits is the immediate concern of the Reagan Administration. President Reagan predicted, along with many top economists, that the federal deficit could be reduced by continued economic growth and spending cuts; however, it now seems that the economy will not grow much more, and the budget will necessitate a raise in taxes. Reagan's conviction that taxes will not be raised continues, but such optimism does not exist in Congress. Spending cuts alone will most likely not be accepted, and Reagan may have to compromise and accept some tax hikes.

The Defense Department, which suffered from spending cuts during the Nixon, Ford, and Carter ad-

ministrations, is scheduled to receive 306 billion dollars for fiscal 1986. What Reagan plans to do is to deploy the Congressionally-approved MX missiles, continue development of the Star Wars defense program, and introduce the Midgetman missile and the Stealth bomber to replace the aged B-1. The greatest misconception about Reagan's defense spending has been that the destructive power has increased. Actually, the total megaton power in the US stockpile has reached its lowest level in 25 years. Modernizing the systems was stopped by lower defense budgets in the 1970's. When Reagan reached the presidency, land-based missiles and our bombers were in poor condition, having been neglected too long.

Just as President Reagan predicted after the Soviets walked out of arms talks earlier in the year, they have "warmed up" by consenting to arms talks. Whether or not any progress will be made remains to be seen; the Soviets primarily want to reduce our missile defense systems (Star Wars) since their equivalent is far less sophisticated. Reagan is intent on current development of the Star Wars system. Also, the Soviets refuse to consider reductions if NATO deploys the Pershing II system. Tough concessions on both sides will have to be made in order for real progress to occur.

Reagan's objectives in Central America will probably not change,

but his methods of dealing with the communist-backed Sandinistas might. Recent differences between Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger precipitate the debate as to the forming of foreign policy: should American soldiers be sent into regions to enforce policy or should they be reserved only to execute a definite mission?

Whereas Reagan's first term was concerned primarily with domestic matters, it seems that President Reagan will concentrate his efforts on foreign policy in his second term. The domestic bills to be brought up by the White House are unlikely to reach the success found in passage during the first term. With Robert Dole, a moderate Republican, elected Senate Majority Leader and the desires of many Republicans becoming less dependent on Reagan because of their possible bids for president or vice-president in 1988, Reagan's agenda will call for more concentrated effort on foreign policy and matters that are untouchable by Congress and less energy on areas vulnerable to the whims of congressional political aspirations.



Kirkpatrick's Future Foreseeable?

By CHARLIE REASOR

After serving for four years at the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick has decided to seek employment elsewhere, preferably at a more important, less-demanding post in the Reagan cabinet: Secretary of State or National Security Advisor. Since these positions have been filled, it appears that if Reagan wants Kirkpatrick around him in a position of influence and power, he will have to fire someone and endure some staff quibbling or persuade Mrs. Kirkpatrick to remain at her current post.

Kirkpatrick's desire to leave the United Nations came after, as some say, a sentence of four years to one of the least desirable posts in the Executive Branch. Although she has been immensely successful (more than any other UN ambassador in recent history), the work and pressure one must endure are dreadful. She has had to acknowledge the existence and importance of querulous banana republics, socialize with the same people who have repeatedly denounced the United States and our allies, and constantly respond to the formerly unanswered anti-American speeches.

Presently, the problem is that there is a struggle in the Reagan staff. Moderate Republicans like

Chief of Staff James Baker, Secretary of State George Shultz, and National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane do not want Kirkpatrick near themselves or President Reagan, especially when the early stages of the second term will be primarily focusing on foreign policy. These moderate Republicans want to distance themselves and the President for these reasons: a) she is conservative, and they are not; b) she is an intellectual giant and can run circles around them when it comes to deciding foreign policy; and c) they contend she is temperamental because she cannot gracefully endure the pressure of such positions. She could replace Edwin

Meese's old job as advisor to the President; however, that job carries closeness and influence but little power.

Kirkpatrick's future is this: she can stay at the United Nations, or she can resume her position as professor at Georgetown University. Conservatives hope that Jeane Kirkpatrick will consider and stay where she is when she hears that ex-Senator Charles Percy (another moderate Republican) could replace her at the UN if she leaves. George Will, a syndicated columnist, writes: "For the foreseeable future, she [Kirkpatrick] should stay where she is, comforted by the fact that not much of the future is foreseeable."

Letter to The Editor

By JOHN BAUMAN

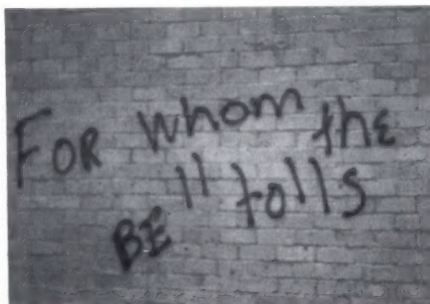
I feel the use of library reference books is an important practice at MBA, but which has become somewhat of a ridiculous procedure. Granted, students need these books for research materials and themes, and granted that there is a demand for them, but I feel leaving a book at home should not be a demeritable offense, at least not for the first-time offender.

With the present system, when a student forgets a reserve book, he is given a two demerit punishment and must come Saturday for at least one hour. I think such a punishment for such a small offense is completely unnecessary.

Anything over night or over a weekend can happen to cause a stu-

dent to forget a book or leave it at home. I don't feel forgetting a reserve book once is any major inconvenience for anyone. It is a rule that it should be returned for the use of other students, but 1) all of the reserve books are not checked out during the academic day, and 2) it is most probable that the person who has left the book at home can give it to a friend who has signed up for the book, therefore not causing an inconvenience for anyone. I think it is a bit stiff to come in for one hour for one slip-up.

Repeated forgetfulness, I feel, should be punished with demerits as a means of discipline, but forgetting a book once is not a matter of discipline at all but instead a matter of a perfectly human fault.



Literary criticism in downtown Nashville.

**Belle Meade
Drugs
Inc.
PHONE 292-5579**

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CONSTITUTION OF THE
M.B.A. HONOR SYSTEM

ARTICLE 1.	Name. The name of this constitution shall be the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 2.	Purpose and Scope. The purpose of the Honor System shall be to maintain the honor and integrity of the M.B.A. Honor System. The scope of the Honor System shall be to maintain the honor and integrity of the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 3.	Membership. The Honor System shall be composed of the members of the M.B.A. Honor System. The members of the Honor System shall be the students of the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 4.	Officers and Directors. The officers and directors of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System. The officers and directors of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 5.	By-Laws. The by-laws of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System. The by-laws of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 6.	Amendments. The amendments of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System. The amendments of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 7.	Disputes. The disputes of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System. The disputes of the Honor System shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System.
ARTICLE 8.	Final Clause. This constitution shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System. This constitution shall be the members of the M.B.A. Honor System.

End of an Era: the old Honor Council constitution.

US ... Alienating
Central America?

By ALEX DAVIS

In the examination of third world situations similar to that found in Nicaragua, the Soviet Union is usually the first assessed as the cause of the problems. While the Soviets are often guilty of some secret action, merely claiming that the Soviet involvement in a third world country is the result of leftist insurgents or Soviet "expansionistic" tendencies is a simplistic and ignorant interpretation of the situation. The decision of a developing country to ally itself with the USSR is often the result of heavy-handed U.S. policies toward that nation and its populace prior to any revolution in the country.

In many countries in the world, the U.S. has or does support military and political dictatorships against the will of the native population. These governments, having only to pledge themselves anti-Communists and pro-American, receive financial and military support. As in the case of Nicaragua, on the early 1900's, when the U.S. sent the army there in an attempt to crush rebel opposition to the established authoritarian government, these governments have also received U.S. troops. The pre-Sandinista Somoza government, the Batista presidency in Cuba before Castro, and now the Reagan supported rule of Zedillo and Marcos in the Philippines are presently or were U.S. supported dictatorships and oligarchies.

By the very nature of these governments, civil and human rights tend to be actively suppressed so control can be maintained. Political dissidents, as happened in El Salvador, are subject to exile and death from pro-government death squads and even the national army. The wealth and land in these coun-

tries, the two being much the same, are usually held by only a few families, leaving the great majority of citizens in poverty or near poverty situations.

In the eyes of the citizens forced to live under these conditions, the U.S. support for the government is inconsistent with the ideals of democracy America is held by the world to represent. As a result, these people become disillusioned with the U.S., and to them, America becomes a country of hypocrites. The citizens hatred for their own oppressive government begins to extend to the superpower who supports it with aid ranging from money to weapons or even troops.

When revolutions arise in these countries, the people and/or the revolutionary groups obviously become enemies of the government, and of the U.S. administration backing it. The U.S. will send more aid, primarily military, to assist the government in crushing the rebels and to preserve the country in fact as a U.S. ally. In El Salvador, rebels demanding land and government reform from the conservative government are faced with an ever growing U.S. trained and supplied Salvadoran army. The U.S. fear of losing such a country as an ally is quite reasonable for the people have been alienated by its support of their government. Furthermore, the revolutionaries will look to other powers to help them in their struggle. Here the Soviet Union gets its chance. All the Soviets need to do is pledge money, arms, and sometimes overt political support and they are virtually assured of a new ally when the government fails. These events occurred within Nicaragua with the Soviet supported Sandinista rebels overthrowing the military dictatorship of President Somoza, and within Cuba with its U.S. backed leader Fulgenio Batista being overthrown by Fidel Castro and his supporters.

The alienation of these developing countries and the resulting conflicts with them could probably have been avoided if the United States had been following their own beliefs, especially in democracy and national sovereignty, and had not just become the victim of a chronic paranoia about its enemies.

Honor Council to Revise the
Constitution this Year. Honestly

By BRYAN DONNELL

The Honor Council constitution presently in use has long been archaic. Very few of the articles of the current constitution are still in use, and all but a few have been in need of severe correction. For a long time the Honor Council has had the intention of correcting it, but not until this year has the Council actually made attempts to correct the constitution and bring a relevant one into action.

This year, however, the Honor Council, under the leadership of president David Chickey, is seeking to correct the out-of-date document and, if at all possible, to bring it into effect at the beginning of the second semester.

Since the beginning of the year, the Honor Council has been holding weekly meetings to discuss the articles presenting problems and how to rewrite them. One such article concerns the process for elections. According to the current constitution, seniors serving on the Council are expected to serve until midway through the next year when elections would be held. The Honor Council has for a while been elected

in the same manner as the Student Council, which is a very different procedure.

Another article under question defines the cases falling under the Council's jurisdiction as those involving "lying, cheating, or stealing." It makes no mention of attempts to deceive and technically does not include plagiarism, both of which are currently regarded as Honor Council offenses.

The article presenting the most problems is the one regarding punishments. Since it technically approves almost any punishment as an acceptable punishment, it is obvious that it demands rewriting.

How to rewrite it, though, is the question. Some members feel that an inflexible punishment system allowing at most three offenses before expulsion is in order, noting that most colleges allow only one offense before expulsion and feeling that such a system would enforce obedience to the Honor Code and that a person who would intentionally violate the Code three times should not remain at MBA. Others, though, fear that a student who committed a few extremely minor

offenses that do not necessarily merit expulsion would have to be expelled anyway.

All members seem to agree that the attitude towards the Honor Code and Council has been deteriorating over recent years and that the Honor System is becoming increasingly isolated from campus life. Such offenses as the stealing of lunches, calculators, and other such items are growing more and more common, and the general attitude seems to be not one of trying to obey the code but trying to avoid being discovered breaking the code. Means to combat this attitude in the upcoming constitution have also been the subject of much debate among Council members. Such means and the punishment system are the two items that still remain to be decided.

When they are, and a rough copy of the new constitution is completed, it will be submitted to the student body for approval in a special assembly. If approved by a two-thirds vote, it will immediately replace the old one. Copies of the reformed constitution will be made available to the student body.

Enterprising, Young, Go-Getters Strive
for the MBA Community

By MORGAN WILLS

The 1984-85 Student Council is alive and well at MBA. The Council, under the leadership of president Mac Hardcastle, has been actively involved in all facets of life on the Hill and other areas.

But first, who is this group of enterprising young go-getters, ever striving for the good of the MBA community? The Student Council is an elected extension of the student body, comprised of the class officers of each high school class as well as the junior school officers. The senior members serve as officers for the entire Council and handle the necessary leadership roles. They are: Mac Hardcastle, president; Buzz Frahn, vice-president; Walter Smithwick, secretary; and Robert Black, treasurer.

Normally, the Student Council convenes on Tuesday nights in the Physics Lab. At each meeting, issues are brought up by the president and discussed openly among the members in the form of "old business" and "new business." It is the secretary's job to take the minutes each week, a condensed version of which is posted on the glass doors as regularly as possible. Although few people have done so this year, visitors are allowed to attend the meetings, but may not vote on any of the issues.

The Student Council, however, must also have input from the administration. This need is filled by the presence of Dr. Crowell, the Student Council sponsor, at each of the meetings. In the words of Hardcastle, Dr. Crowell serves as "a happy medium to voice the opinions of both the faculty and administration."

This year's Student Council first convened three or four days after last year's graduation, a day before the Teachers' Meeting. Over the summer these loyal troopers sacrificed their spare time to attend 3 or 4 meetings in preparation for

the upcoming year, and a weekend leadership conference in Sewanee, TN.

There is a lot of close contact between the Council and the administration, especially with the officers. Council members have been able to discuss topics and even enjoy a meal at Mr. Bondurant's house. In addition, constant communication with Mr. Bondurant and Mr. Drake is always found.

The Council has made many decisions this year, both big and small. In the area of administration, they accepted such topics as senior privilege of College Day, on which any senior, without prior commitments, could miss school to go to the college(s) of his choice.

Also, the issues of Speech and Computer classes, which presently count towards the failing list but not towards averages, are being reconsidered.

The Roberts Room plan which is

in effect now was a major accomplishment of which the Council is very proud.

Another case which came under the scrutiny of the Council was the new merit system in which each class has its own supervisor. (A major reworking of this system is expected for the second semester.) As a result of disgruntlement among teachers and a few students, a cafeteria committee, headed by Robert Black, has been designated to handle all complaints. These should be written down and submitted to a Council member.

Another area in which the Student Council actively participates is community involvement. Earlier this year, Council members organized a group of students to help out at Traveller's Rest's Country Fair. An attempt to either help or sponsor a Special Olympics was put off until Spring due to complications. In addition, Mr.



Campus life: The 9:40 trip to assembly.

Belle Meade Buffet

"A Southern Restaurant"
9 Belle Meade Plaza

The Purple Flipside

By TRAVIS JACKSON

I know what everyone is thinking: "Another article about Prince; he's becoming too much like that Jackson-fellow." Well, first of all, this is not a review of Purple Rain, the movie or the soundtrack. This is not a biography. This is a true story, only the names... (J.K.) Now you may say to yourself, "What is it?" A review of His Royal Badness' passively released singles, the flip-sides. You may say "Not key" but read on.

It was once said of the Rude Boy by Jimmy Jam, former Time keyboardist, that Prince had "songs coming out of his pores. He would bring a song to rehearsal, another hit. Then his album would come out and that song wouldn't be on there."

According to Jimmy, that type of thing was habit for Prince. We have only recently been able to sample some of his recordings via the flip-side. Ones not to be mentioned in detail are "Electric Intercourse," "Possessed," "Gotta Stop Messin' About," "Father's Song," and "Our Destiny" (all not yet available to the general public).

The first song is "How Come U Don't Call Me Anymore?" Location: flip-side of the "1999" single. It is a tender, touching ballad about unrequited love. It is very well performed despite the fact that it was recorded acapella. If you like ballads this one is a must.

Following right along in chronological order, we discover "Horny Toad," a more fast-paced song about a frog's fascination with a female and the fantasies produced as a result. A cool song, a nasty song, but you won't catch its full import unless you listen carefully. Location: turn over the "Delirious" single and there it is.

"17 Days" the flip-side of "When Doves Cry" is a song about the depression one feels after being literally dumped by a girlfriend for someone else. Nice, unique and insightful in some ways, but, once again, not for those weird people who hate slower songs.

"Erotic City" is the encore song

that no one heard during this year's airband competition. As a matter of fact, it's a good thing no one did (I could have been in deep trouble). This song, which contains a few choice words, is a sexy song about being in love. La chanson, c'est tres excellent! In addition to this being Prince's first recorded duet with anyone (Sheila E. was the first, Apollonia 2nd), it is "Let's Go Crazy's" flip-side.

Finally and most recently, Prince's song about the one and only thing that exists which he loves more than women: "God." It shows off his falsetto and the rest of his vocal range. It can be enjoyed only by die-hard Prince fans. A shift to gospel music? Don't bet

your life on it. This stunning tribute written about the creation, is an awesome song but not for rockers.

There you have it: six flip-side wonders and five mentions of things to look for. I recommend "Erotic City" for regular people, "Gotta Stop Messin' About" for anyone who can find the 4-year-old remix of "Uptown" released only in Great Britain, and four remaining for the real purple people. Listen for "Possessed," "Our Destiny," "Father's Song," and "Electric Intercourse"; they may pop up in his already famous, not-like-The-Jacksons-Tour, rumored to his Memphis in January. Keep ya posted. May U live 2 see the Dawn!



A scant selection of the many trophies won by the Debate Team.

Laden with the Fruits of Victory

By TOMMY OUTLAW

In the tradition of the ancient Roman legions, the MBA Debate Team has invaded city after city, and continually returned to Nashville laden with the fruits of victory.

After the team of Warren Sprouse and Tommy Outlaw effortlessly took 1st place in the varsity division of the Maplewood Invitational, a highly competitive local tournament, Mr. Tate decided to venture out of state in search of bigger game. Thus, the MBA juggernaut rolled into Alabama, its sights set on Birmingham and victory at the Homewood High School Tournament.

As was predicted the team took no prisoners as it swept first place victories in every division, including individual events. Among the victors, Madison Laird and Tommy Outlaw met MBA's second team of Doug Johnson and Warren Sprouse in the final round, thus achieving a "close-out" for the second year in a row at the tournament. Madison and Tommy also tied for first place speaker in the varsity division. In the novice division, T.A. McKinney and Tom Rogers linked up to make a formidable team, winning 1st

place on a 3-0 decision against 2 veteran debaters from Selma High in Alabama. In individual events, Merritt Seshul and John-Lindell Pfeffer tied for 1st place in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and John-Lindell took second place in Congress, losing 1st place only by the flip of a coin. The 16 trophy sweep proved the MBA debaters were not a ragtag collection of computer whiz kids, but a combat-proven crack squad of verbal Marines, having devastated more than 30 teams from 5 southeastern states.

While most of the team took a weekend off for R&R, Doug Johnson and Warren Sprouse, still thirsting for victory, traveled to Iowa for the Dowling High School Debate Tournament. In their first journey northward, Doug and Warren placed an impressive 5th against many more experienced debaters. They also took 2nd and 3rd place speakers, respectively.

After verbally trouncing team after team in the South, the top varsity team of Tommy Outlaw and Madison Laird felt they were up to the challenge of competing against the perennial powerhouse schools of the North. This the two ventured into the icy winterland of Chicago for the gruelling "Chicago Swing." At the first leg of the three tournament trip, the Glenbrook South Tournament, Madison and Tommy wreaked havoc on all comers, going into elimination rounds as the third seeded team. After a rousing 3-0 decision over the St. Mark's School of Dallas, Texas in octa-finals, the team eventually fell victim to Glenbrook North, currently coached by former MBA

coach Tom Sullivan. Tommy also won a surprisingly high 4th place speaker award at the tournament. In the junior varsity division, John Joe and Chris Promey continued their winning streak, winning all 18 ballots for a first place finish and claiming the top two speaker awards, respectively.

Two days later, Tommy and Madison were one of 11 teams who participated in the prestigious Glenbrook North Round Robin Sapped of strength and commonsense, Tommy and Madison made many strategic errors, such as arguing the merits of global nuclear war, abortion, and authoritarian repression. As would logically follow, the team failed to excel, posting a 9-11 record, tying for 6th place.

Determined to prove they were more than token invitees to Mr. Sullivan's tournament, Tommy and Madison bounced back at the Northwestern University Debate Tournament. Northwestern, the

largest tournament in the nation, consists of over 150 teams from more than 25 states. The debaters proved a match for Tommy and Madison, though, as they marched through elimination round after elimination round in victory. Showing the wide variety of states participating at the tournament, MBA defeated the team from Downer's Grove, Illinois in double octa-finals, Bolton High from Louisiana in octa-finals and Bellaire High from Houston, Texas in quarter finals. In semifinals, Tommy and Madison met their match, losing to the eventual victor, Lake Braddock High from Burke, Va. The 5th, 6th, and 3rd place victories in Chicago earned MBA a reputation as one of the most highly respected schools in the nation.

After notable successes both in the North and in the South, MBA's debate team has established itself as a team to be feared through the civilized world.

Student Council. . .

(Continued from page 3)

Womack's idea for a Prison Art Show was realized, due in part to funds appropriated by the Student Council.

Other areas of community service include the Soup Kitchen, held on random Saturdays during the School year at Holy Name Catholic Church, which is financed by students' own contributions. In addition, certain seniors not participating in a sport have been

tutoring Cambodians at the YMCA on a weekly basis in the general subjects of math and English.

The last field of interest of the Student Council is actual student life. The primary accomplishments in this area thus far this year have been the two student dances. A "Beech" Party followed the MBA football victory over Beech and was highlighted by such old smash music hits as "Hawaii Five-O" and "Surfin' U.S.A." As a result of its success, the Council organized an air band dance after the Glencliff game. Joe Rich won the air band competition, while Robbie McNair, Jesse Tacogue, and Garth Nash amazed us with their breakdancing ability. Although the original intention was to break even on the dances, their success returned a small profit. Incidentally, this money was used to provide Christmas gifts of socks, gloves and hats to the street people at the Soup Kitchen.

Overall, this year's Student Council has proved to be very effective so far and promises to accomplish perhaps more than in year's past. Mac credits this fact to last year's Council and its president, Parish Lenz; who was "most effective in getting organized and pioneered the way for successful Student Councils in the future."



His Royal Badness, Prince.

Let's Active at Vandy

By BEN VANCE
and TAMMI PHILLIPS

Let's Active, the Atlanta-based quartet, arrived in Nashville Thursday night, Nov. 29, and played to a full house at Vanderbilt University.

Touring to promote their new I.R.S. release, *Cypress*, the band played an extraordinary set geared toward the "C.A." sound of dance-rock. Two new members on drums and keyboard backed up the previous band, led by Mitch Easter, the southeast's most innovative music personality, renowned for his R.E.M. production work.

Real Coco opened for the band, playing their previously unheard

dance-funk music to enthusiastic response as the verve began to fill.

Let's Active summoned the crowd to the front to dance, but the eager audience that began doing so were shouted down by those in the rear who could not see. As a result, dancing took place only during the show-stopping "Every Word Means No."

The audience, which contained many local personalities, including Jason of Jason and the Scorchers, enjoyed very high quality sound and the tasty punch served at both performances.

This band should have a long and successful career if they continue playing like this.

Outing Club starts year with a bang

By JEFF McLAREN

The Outing Club started off the year with a bang having a backpacking trip during the first weekend of school. Through Sept. 7, 8, and 9th the harty backpackers were to go from Max Patch to Hot Springs, N.C. The entourage for the trip included Ward Chafin, Hunt Nichol, Kevin Young, Jody Davis, Bruce Francis, Jeff McLaren, former MBA student Wade Davies, and the Outing Club's sponsor Mr. Womack. All packed and ready to go, the group left 8th period on Friday, the 7th and proceeded to Hot Springs. Being "Wendy's kind of people," a stop was made in Asheville, N.C. for everyone to grab a bite.

With dreams of sugar plums and other things in their heads, the van roared to a stop shortly after dark at an old mining building that was owned by Mr. Womack's friend Danny. After loitering around the front porch for hours conversing and listening to dogs howl in the distance, everyone bedded down for the night. Up there it got quite nippy at night and even this early in the fall one could see the smoke of his own breath.

All woke up to the dawn and

frost in preparation for a lengthy day's hike. The pond outside of the cabin had an eerie fog floating into the air. One was reminded of the serenity of Thoreau's Walden Pond. The van was loaded up and the group left for the trail. Danny

*Outing Club is
"Wendy's kind
of people"?*

came along to place the van at the end of the trail.

The start of this section of the trail had some of the most impressive scenery to be seen on the trip. Max Patch is a 4,300 ft. bald mountain where no trees grow and one is given unlimited views of the surrounding mountain ranges. The combination of sunrise fog, and the proximity of Max Patch to other mountains chains was a sight to

behold. All enjoyed Pop Tarts and other assorted goodies while cycling the scenery. Reluctantly the hikers put their provisions on their backs and took off down the trail.

The trail was mainly down hill for 4 miles, and then a huge 700 foot climb of one mile faced the backpackers. Everyone was relieved at the top of 4,300 foot Walnut Mountain where the group halted for a lunch break. The party proceeded down the mountain to Kale Gap and started up a 1,000 foot high mountain with a mile and one-half incline. This proved to be the test of true manhood with all passing the test at the crest of 4,800 Bluff Mountain. The rest of the day consisted of a 3 1/2 mile stretch of trail dropping over 2,000 feet. Exhausted, everyone set up camp.

Firewood was gathered, tents were pupped, stoves were lit, and campfire was started—all in a short period of time. Most enjoyed the freeze dried entrees but some of the more original foods were unfrozen steak and Jiffy-Pop. Afterwards, everyone swapped stories and Mr. Womack played in the fire.

With the dawn came a new day and 6 1/2 more miles of trail. Camp was quickly dismantled and the motley crew attacked the trail. Breakfast was the reward at a shelter rest stop only 3 miles from the trail's end. All finally made it much to everyone's joy. A sense of accomplishment was shared between all involved. Hot Springs soon faded from view, however, as the van headed for Nashville. Again, a stop was made in Asheville for food. The weary but enlightened hikers arrived in Nashville in the afternoon.

If anyone would like to view the pictures taken on the trip, Mr. Womack encourages you to stop by the Art Room. Any person who is interested in joining the Outing Club can contact Mr. Womack, and members should listen for announcements for future trips.



MBA's first "no-snowday-for-us" snowday of the 1984-85 school year.

Soup Kitchen. . .

(Continued from page 1)

at all. If there is enough, and all have finished eating, the leftover food is packaged and given to those who want it. Those who do wish to take something with them usually say it is for someone else when in reality it is their own next meal. The dining room empties and the volunteers clean up, washing tables, pans, etc., and put all back in order before they leave to return in another month.

For Christmas this year, in addition to MBA's soup kitchen duties, the junior school will be buying gloves, socks, and hats for the winter months. They will wrap these presents and send them to those who need it. The student council has also donated money

from past dances to help Hoity Name cover utility expenses, and plans to continue the soup kitchen throughout the year with the help of Westminster Church in the summer months.

Working at the soup kitchen is an experience. One can see the problems and needs of people who live literally around the corner, and that someone doesn't need to be a small child in an underdeveloped, third world country to need help. The experience develops a sense of community awareness and the need for charity. It is hoped that many will volunteer if not just for extra-curricular credit or curiosity but more importantly to be more aware of the world and people around him.

Microbe Football

By JOSH EASTER

This year's microbe football team, under the direction of former MBA standout Ricky Bowers, had an up-and-down season, finishing with a 4-3 record. Their record, however, is not indicative of their ability and determination; in most cases, the microbes were overwhelmingly outsize by their opponents but still gave the opposition a fight.

Leading the microbes this year on offense was running back Chris Hall, who accounted for much of the Little Red's rushing and a few touchdowns. Hall needed some tough blockers to aid him in attacking the opposition—these crucial blocks were provided by linemen

such as Kelsey Fitzpatrick and Sheldon Griffin, just to name a few. Defensively, the linebacker position was most important—Bo Healy and Robin Nimmo were the key men at that position and at times dealt their foes excruciating hits.

The 1984 season for the microbes included wins over Ezell-Harding, N.C.S., Page, and B.G.A., and losses to Ensworth, Goodpasture, and HVAC powerhouse Northside. With the addition of most of this year's graduating class of Ensworth, the 8th graders on the team should be fairly competitive as fresh next year, while this year's seventh graders can hopefully improve a rebuilding microbe football program as eighth graders.

*Happy Holidays
From the Editors*



B-Ball

OPPONENT	DATE	SITE
Ryan Tournament	Dec. 20, 21, 22	Ryan
Kingsport Tournament	Dec. 27, 28	Kingsport
Antioch	Friday, Jan. 4	Antioch
Pearl—Cohn	Tuesday, Jan. 8	Antioch
Glenciff	Friday, Jan. 11	Home
Hillwood	Friday, Jan. 18	Hillwood
Ryan	Tuesday, Jan. 22	Ryan
Overton	Friday, Jan. 25	Home
Hillsboro	Tuesday, Jan. 29	Hillsboro
Antioch	Friday, Feb. 1	Home
Pearl—Cohn	Tuesday, Feb. 5	Home
Glenciff	Friday, Feb. 8	Glenciff
Hillwood	Friday, Feb. 15	Hillwood
District Tournament	Feb. 18, 23	NA
Regional Tournament	Feb. 25, 28	NA



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Bell Ringer Sports

A Glance at MBA Football

By ROBBY BUENO

The Montgomery Bell Academy varsity football team completed a very successful season with a victory over Columbia in the Pioneer Bowl 21-9. It was the second straight bowl appearance for MBA, who had played in the Butter Bowl last year. Coach Owen felt that the team had an outstanding season and even felt that the team was probably the best in Nashville. The turning point in the season was the demoralizing loss to Hillwood. After that game, the team, determined to have a winning season, played more consistently and rolled to seven straight victories. Offensively, Coach Owen felt the team played well at times but was inconsistent. The Big Red offense did manage to score 226 points in 11 games.

The nonconsistency of the offense forced the coach to go with a more conservative game plan. Defensively, the coach felt the team played well, allowing only 48 points from the line of scrimmage with 7 points coming in overtime. Coach Owen was also pleased with the specialty teams except for the punt rush and kickoff team which gave up 2 touchdowns. Excellent senior leadership from captains Harry Peffen and Robert Black and others also played an important factor in this season's success. Coach Owen stated that coming back from the Hillwood loss and winning seven straight games was a real tribute to the character and leadership of everybody on the team.

In the Pioneer Bowl, the Big Red had to battle not only the Columbia Lions but also the harsh weather. A driving rain continued throughout the game, and an icy Arctic wind cut through the November sky. The dark, forbidding clouds and mud-covered earth predicted doom for the host Lions. The MBA offense conducted two impressive drives despite the weather, while excellent punting by Harry Peffen and stingy defense held the potent Columbia offense. The first score of the game came on a Columbia field goal with one second left in the first half. Under these conditions, three points could have won the game, but the Big Red, determined to come home victorious, took control in the second half. The offense scored 21 points on touchdowns by Masten, Patikas, and Henderson, while the defense allowed no first downs. The impressive victory over Columbia was a fitting end to a very fine season.

A vital factor in the team's success was the defense led by Robert Black who roamed from sideline to sideline recording 118 tackles from

his linebacker position. The interior linemen consisting of Robby Bueno, Rob Harwell, and Hudson Walker clogged the middle forcing play to the outside where ends John Jenkins and Steve Rollins cut down opposing runners with devastating authority. Linebackers Buzz Frahn and Talbot Masten filled the offensive tackle hole or stopped the trap play. Rover Harry Peffen came up for support on runs or dropped back into the pass coverage. Robin Henderson, Dave Malone, and Dawson Thombs patrolled the secondary, preventing the big play and coming up with key interceptions. Also contributing to the defense were Griffith, Smith, Wilk, Fuson, and Soper.

The offense was led by Takis Patikas, Steve Rollins, Talbot Masten, and Harry Peffen. These four physical runners pounded opposing defenses running behind a huge offensive line. Tackles Rob Harwell (6-3, 192), Brad Mangrum (6-4, 250), and Hudson Walker (5-10, 174), guards Robby Bueno (5-11, 210), and Jim Hunt (5-11, 162) made up an offensive line that physically dominated opposing teams at times. The passing attack consisted of Patikas, Robin Henderson, Chip Friedrich, Jack Brown, and Nick Sieveking. David Muddiman and Harry Peffen served as the kickers. Specialty teams were led by Todd Pardue, Kenny Russell, Lee Vaughn, and Todd Bottorff. The kick and punt returns were handled by Robin Henderson. All these individuals and the rest of the team contributed to this year's success.



Another Winter Track Entity, Jeff McLaren, braves the cold.

Indoor Track Begins

By GAVIN MOON
and STEVE GILLELAND

After having compiled a very successful cross-country season this fall, Coach Robert K. Pruitt looks forward to the semi-legitimate sport of indoor track. As Coach Pruitt states, "Last year we finished fourth in the Midstate Regional meet at Murfreesboro... our best finish ever. We hope to repeat that this year."

The Winter Track program at MBA is divided into two groups, the Entities and Nonentities. Basically, the Nonentities are not serious winners and the Entities are people who are serious about spring track.

"We hope to

repeat last year's

success"

Coach Pruitt

Wrestling Season Open

By WALTER SMITHWICK

The 1984-85 Varsity Wrestling team looks forward to an exciting and successful year. After a rebuilding year at "Tennis Unlimited," the wrestlers have settled into their new wrestling room and have begun to condition themselves for the upcoming season. One key source says the

wrestlers are confident and ready for the new season.

"The team will find good leadership in the eight returning seniors: two time state champion Scot Garfinkel, Ken Larrish, John Robbins, Steve Rollins, Steve Saperstein, Chris Smith, Walter Smithwick, and Scott Thompson. Along with Brad "Mangler" Mangrum at the heavyweight division and twenty other wrestlers, these seniors help fill the weight division with top competing wrestlers.

Mr. Williams and new coach Mr. Killiam train the team for their opening triangular district match with NCS and Hillwood at NCS. The Big Red's first home match with Dickson will be the day after the opening match on Wednesday, December 12th. After these key pre-Christmas matches the team will prepare to wrestle well in the BGA and Overton Tournament, respectively, the first and second weekends after the opening week of matches.

Due to its questionable popularity, there are only two indoor track meets during the season; both meets being held at Murphy Center, Murfreesboro, TN. Even though these are only two meets (held at the end of January and beginning of February), the competition is at its best. There are usually four states that compete: Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Kentucky.

The runners who are most likely to score points for the Big Red are: Rob Alley, David Chickey, Steve Gilleland and Jim Gardner, a probable 2 mile relay team. Hunt Adams in the pole vault, Gavin Moon in the 60 meter dash and long jump, Johnny Thompson in the 60 meter hurdles, and Brennon Martin also in the 60 meter dash.

Football Stats

TEAM OFFENSE

Points scored: 226 (20.5 per game)
Total yards: 2644 (240.4 per game)
Touchdowns: 27
Yards rushing: 1885 (171.4 per game)
Yards passing: 759 (69 per game)
Fumbles lost: 9

TEAM DEFENSE

Points allowed: 63 (5.7 per game)
Yards allowed: 1723 (156.6 per game)
Touchdowns allowed: 8
Yds. rushing allowed: 1093 (99.4 per game)
Yds. passing allowed: 630 (57.3 per game)
Fumbles gained: 19
Interceptions: 15

INDIVIDUAL OFFENSE

Passing	atts	compl	% comp	yds.	int	TD
Patikas	99	42	42.4	619	8	6
Rushing	rushes	yds	avg	TD		
Rollins	174	856	4.9	8		
Masten	87	505	5.8	5		
Peffen	23	146	6.4	2		
Punting	punts	yds	avg	blk		
Peffen	45	1452	32.3	0		
Kicking	FG att	FG com	pat att	pat com	total pts	
Muddiman	9	8	27	22	46	
Receiving	rec	yds	avg	TD		
Henderson	13	219	16.8	2		
Peffen	12	162	13.5	2		

INDIVIDUAL DEFENSE

Tackles	total	solos	assists			
Black	118	55	63			
Jenkins	83	40	43			
Bueno	66	33	32			
Harwell	65	33	32			

Punt returns	ret	yds	avg	TD		
Henderson	26	293	11.3	1		

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Wrestling Calendar

OPPONENT	DATE	SITE
Hillwood, N.C.S.	Dec. 11	N.C.S.
Dickson Co.	Dec. 13	M.B.A.
B.G.A. Tournament	Dec. 15	B.G.A.
Brentwood	Dec. 18	M.B.A.
Overton Tournament	Dec. 21, 22	Overton
Ryan Tournament	Jan. 4, 5	Ryan
F.R.A., Castle Heights	Jan. 8	M.B.A.
Brentwood Aca., Hillsboro	Jan. 11	M.B.A.
Hopkinsville Tournament	Jan. 19	Hopkinsville
Ryan	Jan. 22	Ryan
Fl. Campbell, Overton	Jan. 25	Overton
Franklin, Baylor	Jan. 26	Ryan
District Tournament	Feb. 1, 2	N.C.S.
Region Tournament	Feb. 8, 9	Whites Creek
State Tournament	Feb. 16, 17	U.T.C.

Bell Ringer Sports



Cheerleaders hard at work inciting the basketball crowd to a frenzy.

Big Red Basketball

By DAVID WOOD and BILL COCHRAN
When asked about the shape of the MBA roundball program, Coach Mark Elliott replied, "The team may lose early, but if it remains confident they should be able to play against anybody in the region by the end of the year."

The varsity basketball squad has been off to a slow start this 1984-1985 season. Due to the extended football season, tryouts for the team were delayed. The newly selected team of three seniors, six juniors and two sophomores was thrown into its first season game with only 3 practices.

The season opened on November 23 at MBA against a strong Baylor team from Chattanooga. The lack of practice was evident as Baylor took an early lead. Many of the guards for MBA had been practicing only three days. Charles Mayes held his own in his first varsity basketball game and Jay Schmitt

was the leading scorer for the Big Red. Unfortunately our boys were unable to resist the Baylor onslaught.

The following night MBA met the Knoxville Webb team at Father Ryan's gymnasium. Because of Robin Henderson's injury incurred the previous night, junior Todd Pardue and sophomore Peter Paris had to take command. With only one senior starter, the MBA team would have a tough game on their hands. Despite the lack of senior leadership, the team played well and took the game into overtime where they lost by two points.

The following Tuesday the Big Red lost to state contender Whites Creek 51-61 at Whites Creek. The team played better than the two previous games and showed signs of improvement.

The next Friday night the MBA team took on arch-rival Father Ryan at MBA. It was an extremely

close game with MBA and Ryan exchanging the lead several times, but when the final second ticked, MBA found itself a point behind. The final score was 53-52 in Ryan's favor. Despite the loss, the MBA team played better than in previous games and certain players played exceptionally. Charles Mayes scores 17 points and fellow sophomore, Peter Paris, scored 10.

The following Tuesday, Dec. 4, the team faced BGA at BGA. Unfortunately, the Big Red showed no signs of improvement and in fact, did not play well at all as they lost to BGA by a substantial margin.

That Friday the team played

"Should be able to play against

anyone by the end of the year."

Alumni Football Spotlight

Reprinted courtesy of
Vanderbilt Sports Information.

NASHVILLE—Wade Smith has a more unique view of a football game than anyone on the Vanderbilt team. He sees things upside down!

Smith's only job for the team is to make the snaps for punts, field goals, and extra points.

"I guess you could say I look at the game from a different perspective," Smith says laughingly. "I have some friends who sit in the end zone who tell me they always see my best side."

A senior from Nashville, Smith has handled the crucial snapping duties for three seasons. He performs the task in an exemplary

manner of head coach George MacIntyre, toyed with the idea of walking on.

"I always loved Vandy while I was growing up," said Smith, who sold programs at the football and basketball games as a youngster. "I didn't really picture myself playing at Vanderbilt. When I thought about it I said to myself, 'Man, this is crazy.'"

"I went into the office one day that summer to tell Coach Mac I wasn't going to walk on. Coach Mac changed my mind and talked me into coming out. Barry Flynn was the only long snapper on the team, and he was a senior so he told me there was a chance I'd get to play. Naive as I was, I said 'okay.'"

Smith played scout team football his freshman year while adding 50 (that's right, 50) pounds of strength in the weight room. He spent the summer of 1982 making 150 long snaps every morning to his brother, David, then came to Vanderbilt in the afternoon and snapped to anyone who would work with him.

The hard work paid off. Smith won the job and in his first year as a regular the Commodores went 8-3 and earned a spot in the Hall of Fame Bowl. He was awarded a scholarship that season and everything has been smooth sailing since then.

The personable Smith has helped some great kickers at Vanderbilt. In 1982, his accurate snaps played a role in Jim Arnold becoming a first team All-American punter. With Wade's assistance, Ricky Anderson has become the most productive placekicker in Vanderbilt history. Anderson is also currently the nation's leading punter with an amazing 49.2 average.

As good as he is, there is a lot more to Wade Smith than his ability to snap a football. An outstanding student, Wade has plans to go to graduate school. He scored in the 87th percentile (top 13 percent) on the national law school entrance exam and placed in the 97th percent (top three percent) on the business

school test.

"When you're talking about anything in life you have to have priorities," Smith says. "Winning and losing (in football) is important—that's why you keep score—but there are a lot of things in life and you have to make sure you have them straight."



Varsity basketball player, Charles Mayes, shoots for the Big Red.

A high priority with Wade is working with youth. He spends his Sunday mornings as a teacher at Harpeth Hills Church of Christ, instructing junior high age youngsters.

"In the fall of '82 a friend of mine asked me to help him teach his class and before I knew it, I was in it all the time," Smith explains. "I got hooked working with the kids and I really enjoy it. It can be tough, especially after a night game, but it's rewarding."

Smith worked at the Harpeth Hills summer camp in 1982 and he has been a counselor at Fellowship of Christian Athletes camps the last two summers. He is also highly active in Vanderbilt's FCA chapter.

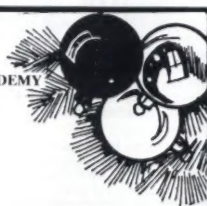
"I love working with the kids," Smith says. "It's a great opportunity for me to be around them. I guess I enjoy it so much because I'm still a kid at heart."

Wade Smith may have an upside down view of football, but he has his feet planted firmly on the ground.

Overton at Overton. Returning from the humiliating loss at BGA, the team again improved itself and actually played well, but once more the team found itself down by one point at the end of the game. The team should have won the game but had too many turnovers and had to settle for a 55-54 loss. Jay Schmitt scored 22 points and had 16 rebounds while Charles Mayes scored 14 points. Todd Pardue played good defense for the team and Henry Trost also contributed to the team's play.

As Coach Elliott said, the team may lose early in the season but if the confidence remains, they will be able to play anyone in the region. So, don't let the losses get the crowd support down. With the exception of one game, the team has improved all season and will continue to do so as they will also begin to win games.

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"A unique view of football."

manner. Commodore fans and coaches have learned to accept the perfect long snap as routine.

Indeed, Smith makes it look easy. "I feel more at ease this year than ever, but every time you go out there is always that pressure," Smith says. "A lot of snapping is learning and experimenting, and then repetition."

Smith has had plenty of repetition. He's taken charge of long snapping since his days in junior pro football. He was a three-sport standout during his prep days at Montgomery Bell Academy. College recruiters, however, didn't knock the door down for a 6-0, 170-pound center.

Wade knew he was going to Vanderbilt, and with the encourage-